

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-19 are canceled. New claims 21-33 are added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10-19 are canceled.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,132,999 to Wirth. Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 10-18 are canceled.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,524,240 to Titterton et al. Claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 15-19 are canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 8 and 20 are allowed. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 5, 8 and 20.

New Claims

New claims 21-33 are added. The Applicant believes that new claims 21-33 contain patentable subject matter and are in condition for allowance. Therefore, allowance of new claims 21-33 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks/arguments presented above, the Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner telephone the undersigned in the event a telephone conference would be helpful in advancing prosecution of the application towards allowance.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the RCE fee and any additional fees, which may be required in this application to Deposit Account No. 070845. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extension fees to Deposit Account No. 070845.

Respectfully submitted,

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